

Dear FCC,

Subject: 80.310: Watch required by Voluntary Vessels

Voluntary vessels equipped with an operating radiotelephone (SSB) system should be required to maintain a continuous watch on 2182 kHz when the vessel is on the open sea beyond the range of VHF communications and the system is not being used for authorized traffic.

Voluntary vessels may be the closest to the source of a distress transmission and should respond to the distress as well as assist in the alert of the distress. Having a SSB on board any vessel at sea and not maintaining a watch on 2182 kHz is counter to the purpose and intent of safety at sea.

Regards,

Walt Paul \_\_\_\_\_